

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) A method of sharing information in an instant messaging environment, comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

providing an instant messaging interface for a first instant messaging application,
wherein the instant messaging interface for the first instant messaging application includes a first region and a second region;

providing an instant messaging interface for a second instant messaging application,
wherein the instant messaging interface for the second instant messaging application includes a third region and a fourth region;

wherein all content entered in the second region is displayed in substantially real-time in the fourth region;

wherein all content entered in the fourth region is displayed in substantially real-time in the second region;

wherein content in the first region is not automatically displayed in the instant messaging interface for the second instant messaging application;

maintaining a list of items for a user of the first instant messaging application;

receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application;

wherein the content displayed in the first region includes a set of items;

wherein the portion selected by the user input includes a subset of items from the first set of items;

in response to said receiving, storing data that reflects said selected portion of content;

wherein the step of storing data includes updating said list of items to include the subset of items; and

without affecting content displayed in said second and fourth regions, causing information to be displayed in said third region based on said stored data, wherein said data displayed in said third region is related to said portion of content selected in said first region;

wherein said data displayed in the third region includes information relating to each item in said list of items.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing data locally on a device running the first instant messaging application.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, additionally comprising the step of: displaying search results in the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application based on search information entered by a user of the first instant messaging application.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the step of receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region comprises receiving input from the user that selects all of the displayed search results.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the step of receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region comprises receiving input from the user that selects a portion of the displayed search results.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing the search information entered by the user.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, additionally comprising sending a notification from the first instant messaging application to the second instant messaging application in response to storing the data that reflects said selected portion of content.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing data that indicates online purchasing information related to the selected portion of content.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein the set of items of the content in the first region is includes a list of categories.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, additionally comprising the first instant messaging application receiving a list of users permitted to share content, wherein the user of the second instant messaging application is in the list of users.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, additionally comprising the steps of: providing an instant messaging interface for a third instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the third instant messaging application includes a fifth region and a sixth region, wherein all content entered in the second region is displayed in substantially real-time in the sixth region, and wherein all content entered in the sixth region is displayed in substantially real-time in the second region; and without affecting content displayed in said second and sixth regions, causing information to be displayed in the fifth region based on said stored data, wherein said data displayed in said fifth region is related to said portion of content selected in said first region; wherein said data displayed in said fifth region includes information relating to each item in said list of items.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the selected portion of content is first selected portion of content, the subset of items is a first subset, and the stored data is first stored data, additionally comprising the steps of:
- receiving user input that selects a second portion of content displayed within the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application;
- wherein the second portion selected by the user input includes a second subset of items from the first set of items;
- in response to said receiving the selection of the second portion, storing data that reflects said selected second portion of content;
- wherein the step of storing data that reflects the selected second portion includes updating said list of items to include the second subset of items; and
- without affecting content displayed in said second and fourth regions, causing second information to be displayed in said third region based on said stored data that reflects said selected second portion, wherein said second information displayed in said third region is related to said ~~first~~ second portion of content selected in said first region;
- wherein said data displayed in the third region includes information relating to each item in said list of items;
- wherein the second portion of content is different from the first portion of content.

54. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
- providing an instant messaging interface for a first instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the first instant messaging application includes a first region and a second region;
- providing an instant messaging interface for a second instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the second instant messaging application includes a third region and a fourth region;

wherein all content entered in the second region is displayed in substantially real-time in the fourth region;

wherein all content entered in the fourth region is displayed in substantially real-time in the second region;

wherein content in the first region is not automatically displayed in the instant messaging interface for the second instant messaging application;

maintaining a list of items for a user of the first instant messaging application;

receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application;

wherein the content displayed in the first region includes a set of items;

wherein the portion selected by the user input includes a subset of items from the first set of items;

in response to said receiving, storing data that reflects said selected portion of content;

wherein the step of storing data includes updating said list of items to include the subset of items; and

without affecting content displayed in said second and fourth regions, causing information to be displayed in said third region based on said stored data, wherein said data displayed in said third region is related to said portion of content selected in said first region;

wherein said data displayed in the third region includes information relating to each item in said list of items.

55. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing data locally on a device running the first instant messaging application.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 54, additionally comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of:

displaying search results in the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application based on search information entered by a user of the first instant messaging application.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 56, wherein the step of receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region comprises receiving input from the user that selects all of the displayed search results.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 56, wherein the step of receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the first region comprises receiving input from the user that selects a portion of the displayed search results.

59. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 56, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing the search information entered by the user.

60. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 54, additionally comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of sending a notification from the first instant messaging application to the second instant messaging application in response to storing the data that reflects said selected portion of content.

61. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the step of storing data that reflects said selected portion of content ~~comprises~~ further includes storing data that indicates online purchasing information related to the selected portion of content.

62. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 54 wherein the content displayed in the first region is a list of categories.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 54, additionally comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of the first instant messaging application receiving a list of users permitted to share content, wherein the user of the second instant messaging application is in the list of users.

64. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54, additionally comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

providing an instant messaging interface for a third instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the third instant messaging application includes a fifth region and a sixth region, wherein all content entered in the second region is displayed in substantially real-time in the sixth region, and wherein all content entered in the sixth region is displayed in substantially real-time in the second region; and

without affecting content displayed in said second and sixth regions, causing information to be displayed in the fifth region based on said stored data, wherein said data displayed in said fifth region is related to said portion of content selected in said first region;

wherein said data displayed in said fifth region includes information relating to each item in said list of items.

65. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the selected portion of content is first selected portion of content, the subset of items is a first subset, and the stored data is first stored data, and additionally comprising one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving user input that selects a second portion of content displayed within the first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging application;
wherein the second portion selected by the user input includes a second subset of items from the first set of items;
in response to said receiving the selection of the second portion, storing data that reflects said selected second portion of content;
wherein the step of storing data that reflects the selected second portion includes updating said list of items to include the second subset of items; and
without affecting content displayed in said second and fourth regions, causing second information to be displayed in said third region based on said stored data that reflects said selected second portion, wherein said second information displayed in said third region is related to said ~~first~~ second portion of content selected in said first region;
wherein said data displayed in the third region includes information relating to each item in said list of items;
wherein the second portion of content is different from the first portion of content.

66. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for sharing information in an instant messaging environment, comprising:

means for providing an instant messaging interface for a first instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the first instant messaging application includes a first region and a second region;
means for providing an instant messaging interface for a second instant messaging application, wherein the instant messaging interface for the second instant messaging application includes a third region and a fourth region;
wherein all content entered in the second region is displayed in substantially real-time in the fourth region;
wherein all content entered in the fourth region is displayed in substantially real-time in the second region;

wherein content in the first region is not automatically displayed in the instant
messaging interface for the second instant messaging application;

means for maintaining a list of items for a user of the first instant messaging
application;

means for receiving user input that selects a portion of content displayed within the
first region of the instant messaging interface of the first instant messaging
application;

wherein the content displayed in the first region includes a set of items;

wherein the portion selected by the user input includes a subset of items from the first
set of items;

means for storing data that reflects said selected portion of content in response to said
receiving user input; and

wherein the step of storing data includes updating said list of items to include the
subset of items;

means for causing information to be displayed in said third region based on said
stored data without affecting content displayed in said second and fourth
regions, wherein said information displayed in said third region is related to
said portion of content selected in said first region;

wherein said data displayed in the third region includes information relating to each
item in said list of items.

67. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the maintaining a list of items for a user of the first instant messaging application comprises maintaining a data structure of said list of items.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the data structure comprises a table.

69. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the data structure comprises a tree.